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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/370,406	08/09/1999	JONATHAN FOOTE	FXPL-01003US	8078
29116	7590	05/20/2005	EXAMINER	
ROBINSON & POST, L.L.P. 1117 HAMPSHIRE LANE RICHARDSON, TX 75080			NGUYEN, LUONG TRUNG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2612

DATE MAILED: 05/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/370,406

Applicant(s)

FOOTE ET AL.

Examiner

LUONG T. NGUYEN

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-8,10-16,20-26,28-31 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                        | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. Note that this application has been transferred to Examiner Luong T. Nguyen.

#### ***Election/Restrictions***

2. Claims 17-19 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Applicant timely traversed the restriction (election) requirement in the reply filed on 11/07/2003.

#### ***Claim Objections***

3. Claims 17-19 should be canceled.
4. Claims 11-12 are objected to because of the following informalities:  
Claim 11 (line 9), "said composite image" should be changed to --a composite image--.  
Claim 12 is objected as being dependent on claim 11.  
Appropriate correction is required.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 1, 4-8, 10-16, 20-26, 28-31 are allowed.  
The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:  
Regarding claims 28-30, see Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance as indicated in Paper dated on 7/30/2004.

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Regarding claims 1 and 31, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a method, comprising applying a bilinear transformation to the selected pixels to transform the selected pixels from a coordinate system of the at least one image to a common coordinate system of a composite image; wherein applying a bilinear transformation includes using the set of camera offset values, in combination with other claim elements.

Claims 4-8, 10, 13-16 are allowable for the reasons given respect to claim 1.

Regarding claim 11, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a method, comprising wherein cross-fading includes varying a parameter of the pixels having substantially similar registration points from a first patch from a minimum value at a first boundary of said first patch to a maximum value at an opposite boundary of said first patch; varying said parameter of the pixels having substantially similar registration points from a second patch from said maximum value at a boundary of said second patch corresponding to said first boundary to said minimum value at a boundary of said second patch corresponding to said opposite boundary; summing corresponding pixel values of each said first patch and said second patch; and placing the summed values in corresponding locations of said common coordinate system, in combination with other claim elements.

Claim 12 is allowable for the reasons given respect to claim 11.

Regarding claim 20, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a camera array, comprising a warping device configured to warp patches of each image into a common coordinate system of said composite image by applying a bilinear transformation; wherein the warping device applies the set of camera offset values to warp patches, in combination with other claim elements.

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Claims 21-24 are allowable for the reason given in claim 20.

Regarding claim 25, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest a camera array, comprising a registration point source directable to locations within said views of the plurality of cameras, and a detection mechanism configured to detect said registration point source and register the detected registration point source in said views of the plurality of cameras with respect to a coordinate system of said composite image.

Claim 26 is allowable for the reasons given respect to claim 25.

Therefore, this application is in condition for allowance except for the objections of claims 11-12, 17-19 as indicated above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

### ***Conclusion***

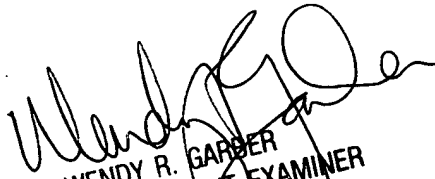
6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUONG T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7315. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on (571) 272-7308. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LN  
05/13/05

  
WENDY R. GARBER  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600